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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Sampath, al.

Examiner:

Continuation of Serial No.: 08/461,113

Group Art:

Filing Date: January 15, 2002

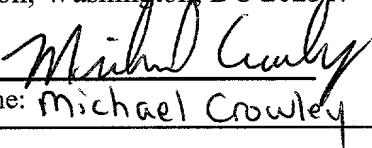
For: MORPHOGEN TREATMENTS FOR LIMITING PROLIFERATION OF  
EPITHELIAL CELLS

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Date of Deposit: January 15, 2002

I hereby certify that this Application for a Continuation Application is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Attention Box Continuation Application, Washington, DC 20231.

  
Name: Michael Crowley

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application prior to examination as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, line 1 change the title from "Morphogen Treatment of Gastrointestinal Ulcers" to  
--- Morphogen Treatments for Limiting Proliferation of Epithelial Cells ---

Please insert the following section on Page 1, line 1 of the specification immediately following  
the Title of the invention---

#### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of application serial no. 08/461,113, filed June 9, 1995 which is a divisional of 08/174,605 filed 12/28/93 and a continuation of 07/945,286 filed 9/15/92, which is a continuation in part of (1) USSN No. 07/752,764, filed August 30, 1991, which is a continuation-in-part of USSN 07/667,274, filed March 11, 1991; and (2) [CRP059CP], filed August 28, 1992, which is a continuation-in-part of [CRP068], filed August 28, 1992, and USSN 753,059, filed August 30, 1991, which is a continuation-in-part of USSN 667,274.

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 – 65 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

66. A method for limiting the mitogenic activity of proliferating epithelial cells in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal an isolated morphogen dispersed in a biocompatible carrier, wherein said morphogen:

- (i) has at least 70% homology with the C-terminal seven cystein skeleton of human OP—1, residues 38—139 of SeQ ID NO: 5;
- (ii) is not TGF $\beta$ 2; and

- (iii) is capable of inhibiting lesion formation in an in vivo oral mucositis assay, and wherein said composition limits the mitogenic activity of proliferating epithelial cells and inhibits scar tissue formation when administered to said mammal.
67. The method of Claim 66 wherein said epithelial cells are epidermal skin cells.
68. The method of Claim 67 wherein proliferation of said cells is associated with psoriasis.

REMARKS

The claims of this application have been amended to conform to developments during the prosecution of the parent application. Early and favorable action on this application is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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